

REMARKS

Claims 1-16 are pending under current examination. In the Office Action,¹ the Examiner rejected claims 1-16 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,041,413 to Wang (“Wang”). By this Amendment, Applicants amend claims 1, 7, 12, 13, and 16 to more clearly define the claimed invention, and further amend claims 2, 5, 8, and 10 to maintain proper antecedent bases.

Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection of claims 1-16 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Wang. In order to properly establish that Wang anticipates Applicants’ claimed invention under 35 U.S.C. § 102, each and every element of each of the claims in issue must be found, either expressly described or under principles of inherency, in that single reference. Furthermore, “[t]he identical invention must be shown in as complete detail as is contained in the ... claim.” See M.P.E.P. § 2131, quoting Richardson v. Suzuki Motor Co., 868 F.2d 1126, 1236, 9 U.S.P.Q.2d 1913, 1920 (Fed. Cir. 1989). Applicants respectfully submit that Wang fails to teach each and every element of Applicants’ claimed invention.

Independent claims 1, 7, 12, 13, and 16, as amended, call for combinations including, for example, “a switch which, when turned on, inhibits activation of the electronic device.” Wang fails to disclose at least this claim element.

In the Office Action, the Examiner stated that “Wang teaches ... means for inhibiting activation of ... security control apparatus 40 ... [in] col. 5, lines 8-18, 31-36.” Office Action, p. 2. Even assuming that the Examiner is correct, Wang’s apparatus

¹ The Office Action contains a number of statements reflecting characterizations of the related art and the claims. Regardless of whether any such statement is identified herein, Applicants decline to automatically subscribe to any statement or characterization in the Office Action.

requires comparing depressed keystrokes with a password. The apparatus of Wang inhibits a computer system from powering up if the depressed keystrokes do not conform to a preset password. See Wang, col. 5, lines 8-18, 31-36. The main switch (also referred to as the power switch) of Wang, when turned on, **powers up** the computer system, provided the keystrokes match the password. See, e.g., Wang, col. 8, lines 27-36. Therefore, Wang fails teach or suggest "a switch which, when turned on, **inhibits activation** of the electronic device," as recited in claims 1, 7, 12, 13, and 16 (emphasis added). Accordingly, Wang cannot anticipate claims 1, 7, 12, 13, and 16. Furthermore, Wang also cannot anticipate dependent claims 2-6, 8-11, 14, and 15 at least by virtue of their dependencies from allowable base claims 1, 7, and 13. Applicants therefore respectfully request the Examiner to reconsider and withdraw the rejection of claims 1-16 as being anticipated by Wang.

In view of the foregoing amendment and remarks, Applicants request reconsideration and reexamination of this application and the timely allowance of the pending claims.

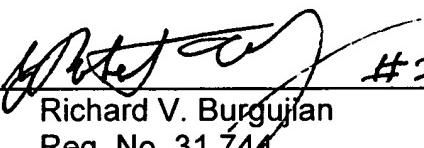
Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our deposit account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

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